O.

OAK

O Has in Engliſh a long ſound; as, *drone*, *groan*, *ſtone*, *alone*, *cloke*, *broke*, *coal*, *droll*; or ſhort, *got*, *knot*, *ſhot*, *prong*, *long*. It is uſually denoted long by a ſervile *e* ſubjoined; as, *moan*, or by *e* at the end of the ſyllable; as, *bone*: when theſe vowels are not appended, it is generally ſhort, except before *l*; as, *droll*, *ſcroll*, and even then ſometimes ſhort; as, *loll*.

1. O is uſed as an interjection of wiſhing or exclamation.

O that we, who have reſiſted all the deſigns of his love, would now try to defeat that of his anger! *Decay of Piety.*

O! were he preſent, that his eyes and hands
Might ſee, and urge, the death which he commands. *Dryd.*

2. O is uſed with no great elegance by *Shakeſpeare* for a circle or oval.

Can this cockpit hold
The vaſty field of France? or may we cram
Within this wooden *O*, the very caſks
That did affright the air at Agincourt? *Shakeſp.*

OAF. *n. ſ.* [This word is variouſly written; *auff*, *ofe*, and *oph*; it ſeems a corruption of *ouph*, a demon or fairy, in German *alf*, from which *elf*: and means properly the ſame with *changeling*; a fooliſh child left by malevolent *ouphs* or *fairies*, in the place of one more witty, which they ſteal away.]

1. A changeling; a fooliſh child left by the fairies.

Theſe, when a child haps to be got,
Which after proves an idiot,
When folk perceives it thriveth not,
The fault therein to ſmother:
Some ſilly doating brainleſs calf,
That underſtands things by the half,
Says that the fairy left this *oaf*,
And took away the other. *Drayt. Nymphid.*

2. A dolt; a blockhead; an idiot.

OA'FISH. *adj.* [from *oaf*.] Stupid; dull; doltiſh.

OA'FISHNESS. *n. ſ.* [from *oafiſh*.] Stupidity; dullneſs.

OAK. *n. ſ.* [ac, æc, Saxon; which, ſays *Skinner*, to ſhew how eaſy it is to play the fool, under a ſhew of literature and deep reſearches, I will, for the diverſion of my reader, derive from ὄικος, a houſe; the oak being the beſt timber for building. *Skinner* ſeems to have had *Junius* in his thoughts, who on this very word has ſhewn his uſual fondneſs for Greek etymology, by a derivation more ridiculous than that by which *Skinner* has ridiculed him. *Ac* or *oak*, ſays the grave critick, ſignified among the Saxons, like *robur* among the Latins, not only an *oak* but *ſtrength*, and may be well enough derived, *non incommode deduci poteſt*, from ἀλκὴ, ſtrength; by taking the three firſt letters and then ſinking the λ, as is not uncommon.]

The *oak*-tree hath male flowers, or katkins, which conſiſt of a great number of ſmall ſlender threads. The embryos, which produced at remote diſtances from theſe on the ſame tree, do afterwards become acorns, which are produced in hard ſcaly cups: the leaves are ſinuated. The ſpecies are five. *Miller.*

He return'd with his brows bound with *oak*. *Shakeſp.*

He lay along
Under an *oak*, whoſe antique root peeps out
Upon the brook that brawls along this wood. *Shakeſp.*

No tree beareth ſo many baſtard fruits as the *oak*: for beſides the acorns, it beareth galls, *oak* apples, *oak* nuts, which are inflammable, and *oak* berries, ſticking cloſe to the body of the tree without ſtalk. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſtory.*

The monarch *oak*, the patriarch of the trees,
Shoots riſing up and ſpreads by ſlow degrees:
Three centuries he grows, and three he ſtays
Supreme in ſtate; and in three more decays. *Dry.*

An *oak* growing from a plant to a great tree, and then lopped, is ſtill the ſame *oak*. *Locke.*

A light earthy, ſtony, and ſparry matter, incruſted and affixed to *oak* leaves. *Woodward on Foſſ.*

In the days of Homer every grove, river, fountain, and

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oak tree, were thought to have their peculiar deities. *Oſſ.*

Let India boaſt her plants, nor envy we
The weeping amber and the balmy tree,
While by our *oaks* the precious loads are born,
And realms commanded which thoſe trees adorn. *Pope.*

OAK. [*Evergreen*.]

The leaves are, for the moſt part, indented, or ſinuated, and in ſome the edges of the leaves are prickly, and are evergreen: it hath amentaceous flowers, which are produced at remote diſtances from the fruit on the ſame tree: the fruit is an acorn like the common *oak*. The wood of this tree is accounted very good for many ſorts of tools and utenſils; and affords the moſt durable charcoal in the world. *Miller.*

OAKA'PPLE. *n. ſ.* [*oak* and *apple*.] A kind of ſpongy excreſcence on the oak.

Another kind of excreſcence is an exudation of plants joined with putrefaction, as in *oakapples*, which are found chiefly upon the leaves of oaks. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt.*

OA'KEN. *adj.* [from *oak*.] Made of oak; gathered from oak.

No nation doth equal England for *oaken* timber wherewith to build ſhips. *Bacon's Advice to Villiers.*

By lot from Jove I am the pow'r
Of this fair wood, and live in *oaken* bow'r. *Milton.*

Clad in white velvet all their troop they led,
With each an *oaken* chaplet on his head. *Dryden.*

An *oaken* garland to be worn on feſtivals, was the recompenſe of one who had covered a citizen in battle. *Addiſon.*

He ſnatched a good tough *oaken* cudgel, and began to brandiſh it. *Arbuthnot's J. Bull.*

OA'KENPIN. *n. ſ.* An apple.

Oakenpin, ſo called from its hardneſs, is a laſting fruit, yields excellent liquor, and is near the nature of the Weſtbury apple, though not in form. *Mortimer.*

OA'KUM. *n. ſ.* [A word probably formed by ſome corruption.] Cords untwiſted and reduced to hemp, with which, mingled with pitch, leaks are ſtopped.

They make their *oakum*, wherewith they chalk the ſeams of the ſhips, of old ſeer and weather beaten ropes, when they are over ſpent and grown ſo rotten as they ſerve for no other uſe but to make rotten *oakum*, which moulders and waſhes away with every ſea as the ſhips labour and are toſſed. *Rul.*

Some drive old *oakum* thro' each ſeam and riſt;
Their left hand does the calking-iron guide;
The rattling mallet with the right they lift. *Dryden.*

OAR. *n. ſ.* [are, Saxon; perhaps by alluſion to the common expreſſion of plowing the water, from the ſame root with *ear*, to plow, *aro*, Lat.] A long pole with a broad end, by which veſſels are driven in the water, the reſiſtance made by water to the oar puſhing on the veſſel.

Th' *oars* were ſilver,
Which to the tune of flutes kept ſtroke, and made
The water which they beat, to follow faſter,
As amorous of their ſtrokes. *Shakeſp. Jul. Ceſar.*

So tow'rds a ſhip the *oar-finn'd* gallies ply,
Which wanting ſea to ride, or wind to fly,
Stands but to fall reveng'd. *Denham's Poems.*

In ſhipping ſuch as this, the Iriſh kern
And untaught Indian, on the ſtream did glide,
E'er ſharp-keel'd boats to ſtem the flood did learn,
Or fin-like *oars* did ſpread from either ſide. *Dryden.*

Its progreſſive motion may be effected by the help of ſeveral *oars*, which in the outward ends of them ſhall be like the fins of a fiſh to contract and dilate. *Wilkins.*

To OAR. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To row.

He more unadunted on the ruin rode,
And *oar'd* with labouring arms along the flood. *Pope.*

To OAR. *v. a.* To impel by rowing.

His bold head
'Bove the contentious waves he kept, and *oar'd*
Himſelf with his good arms in luſty ſtrokes
To th' ſhore. *Shakeſpeare's Tempeſt.*

OA'RY. *adj.* [from *oar*.] Having the form or uſe of oars.

His hair transforms to down, his fingers meet,
In ſkinny films, and ſhape his *oary* feet. *Addiſon.*

The ſwan with arched neck,
Between her white wings mantling, proudly rows
Her ſtate with *oary* feet. *Milton.*

OAST. *n. ſ.* A kiln. Not in uſe.

Empty the binn into a hog-bag, and carry them immediately to the *oaſt* or kiln, to be dried. *Mortimer.*

OATCA'KE. *n. ſ.* [*oat* and *cake*.] Cake made of the meal of oats.

Take a blue ſtone they make haver or *oatcakes* upon, and lay it upon the croſs bars of iron. *Peacham.*

OA'TEN. *adj.* [from *oat*.] Made of oats; bearing oats.

When ſhepherds pipe on *oaten* ſtraws,
And merry larks are ploughmens clocks. *Shakeſp.*

OATH. *n. ſ.* [*aith*, Gothick; að, Saxon. The diſtance between the noun *oath*, and the verb *ſwear*, is very obſervable, as it may ſhew that our oldeſt dialect is formed from different languages.] An affirmation, negation, or promiſe, corroborated by the atteſtation of the Divine Being.

Read over Julia's heart, thy firſt beſt love,
For whoſe dear ſake thou then did'ſt rend thy faith
Into a thouſand *oaths*; and all thoſe *oaths*
Deſcended into perjury to love me. *Shakeſpeare.*

He that ſtrikes the firſt ſtroke, I'll run him up to the hilts as I am a ſoldier.

—An *oath* of mickle might; and fury ſhall abate. *Sha.*

We have conſultations, which inventions ſhall be publiſhed, which not: and take an *oath* of ſecrecy for the concealing of thoſe which we think fit to keep ſecret. *Bacon.*

Thoſe called to any office of truſt, are bound by an *oath* to the faithful diſcharge of it: but an *oath* is an appeal to God, and therefore can have no influence, except upon thoſe who believe that he is. *Swift.*

OA'THABLE. *adj.* [from *oath*. A word not uſed.] Capable of having an oath adminiſtered.

You're not *oathable*,
Altho' I know you'll ſwear
Into ſtrong ſhudders th' immortal gods. *Shakeſpeare.*

OATHBREA'KING. *n. ſ.* [*oath* and *break*.] Perjury; the violation of an oath.

His *oathbreaking* he mended thus,
By now forſwearing that he is forſworn. *Shak. Hen.* IV.

OA'TMALT. *n. ſ.* [*oat* and *malt*.] Malt made of oats.

In Kent they brew with one half *oatmalt*, and the other half barleymalt. *Mortimer's Huſb.*

OA'TMEAL. *n. ſ.* [*oat* and *meal*.] Flower made by grinding oats.

Oatmeal and butter, outwardly applied, dry the ſcab on the head. *Arbuthnot on Aliment.*

Our neighbours tell me oft, in joking talk,
Of aſhes, leather, *oatmeal*, bran, and chalk. *Gay.*

OA'TMEAL. *n. ſ.* An herb. *Ainſworth.*

OATS. *n. ſ.* [aren, Saxon.] A grain, which in England is generally given to horſes, but in Scotland ſupports the people.

It is of the graſs leaved tribe; the flowers have no petals, and are diſpoſed in a looſe panicle: the grain is eatable. The meal makes tolerable good bread. *Miller.*

The *oats* have eaten the horſes. *Shakeſpeare.*

It is bare mechaniſm, no otherwiſe produced than the turning of a wild *oatbeard*, by the inſinuation of the particles of moiſture. *Locke.*

For your lean cattle, fodder them with barley ſtraw firſt, and the *oat* ſtraw laſt. *Mortimer's Huſbandry.*

His horſe's allowance of *oats* and beans, was greater than the journey required. *Swift.*

OA'TTHISTLE. *n. ſ.* [*oat* and *thiſtle*.] An herb. *Ainſ.*

OBAMBULA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*obambulatio*, from *obambulo*, Latin.] The act of walking about. *Dict.*

To OBDU'CE. *v. a.* [*obduco*, Latin.] To draw over as a covering.

No animal exhibits its face in the native colour of its ſkin but man; all others are covered with feathers, hair, or a cortex that is *obduced* over the cutis. *Hale.*

OBDUC'TION. *n. ſ.* [from *obductio*, *obduco*, Latin.] The act of covering, or laying a cover.

OBDU'RACY. *n. ſ.* [from *obdurate*.] Inflexible wickedneſs; impenitence; hardneſs of heart.

Thou think'ſt me as far in the Devil's book, as thou and Falſtaff, for *obduracy* and perſiſtency. *Shakeſpeare's Henry* IV.

God may, by a mighty grace, hinder the abſolute completion of ſin in final *obduracy*. *South's Serm.*

OBDU'RATE. *adj.* [*obduratus*, Latin.]

1. Hard of heart; inflexibly obſtinate in ill; hardned; impenitent.

Oh! let me teach thee for thy father's ſake,
That gave thee life, when well he might have ſlain thee;
Be not *obdurate*, open thy deaf ears. *Shakeſpeare.*

If when you make your pray'rs,
God ſhould be ſo *obdurate* as yourſelves,
How would it fare with your departed ſouls? *Shakeſp.*

Women are ſoft, mild, pitiful, and flexible;
Thou ſtern, *obdurate*, flinty, rough, remorſeleſs. *Shakeſp.*

To convince the proud what ſigns avail,
Or wonders move th' *obdurate* to relent;
They harden'd more, by what might more reclaim. *Milt.*

Obdurate as you are, oh! hear at leaſt
My dying prayers, and grant my laſt requeſt. *Dryden.*

2. Hardned; firm; ſtubborn.

Sometimes the very cuſtom of evil makes the heart *obdurate* againſt whatſoever inſtructions to the contrary. *Hooker.*

A pleaſing ſorcery could charm
Pain for a while, or anguiſh, and excite
Fallacious hope, or arm th' *obdurate* breaſt
With ſtubborn patience, as with triple ſteel. *Milton.*

No ſuch thought ever ſtrikes his marble, *obdurate* heart, but it preſently flies off and rebounds from it. It is impoſſible for a man to be thorough-paced in ingratitude, till he has ſhook off all fetters of pity and compaſſion. *South.*

3. Harſh; rugged.

They joined the moſt *obdurate* conſonants without one intervening vowel. *Swift.*

OBDU'RATELY. *adv.* [from *obdurate*.] Stubbornly; inflexibly; impenitently.

OBDU'RATENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *obdurate*.] Stubbornneſs; inflexibility; impenitence.

OBDURA'TION. *n. ſ.* [from *obdurate*.] Hardneſs of heart; ſtubbornneſs.

What occaſion it had given them to think, to their greater *obduration* in evil, that through a froward and wanton deſire of innovation, we did conſtrainedly thoſe things, for which conſcience was pretended? *Hooker, b.* iv.

OBDU'RED. *adj.* [*obduratus*, Latin.] Hardned; inflexible; impenitent.

This ſaw his hapleſs foes, but ſtood *obdur'd*,
And to rebellious fight rallied their pow'rs
Inſenſate. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* vi.

OBE'DIENCE. *n. ſ.* [*obedience*, Fr. *obedientia*, Latin.] Obſequiouſneſs; ſubmiſſion to authority; compliance with command or prohibition.

If you violently proceed againſt him, it would ſhake in pieces the heart of his *obedience*. *Shakeſpeare's K. Lear.*

Thy huſband
Craves no other tribute at thy hands,
But love, fair looks, and true *obedience*. *Shakeſp.*

His ſervants ye are, to whom ye obey, whether of ſin unto death, or of *obedience* unto righteouſneſs. *Rom.* vi. 16.

It was both a ſtrange commiſſion, and a ſtrange *obedience* to a commiſſion, for men ſo furiouſly aſſailed, to hold their hands. *Bacon's War with Spain.*

Nor can this be,
But by fulfilling that which thou didſt want,
Obedience to the law of God, impos'd
On penalty of death. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* xii.

OBE'DIENT. *adj.* [*obediens*, Latin.] Submiſſive to authority; compliant with command or prohibition; obſequious.

To this end did I write, that I might know the proof of you, whether ye be *obedient* in all things. 2 *Cor.* ii. 9.

To this her mother's plot
She, ſeemingly *obedient*, likewiſe hath
Made promiſe. *Shakeſp. M. W. of Wind.*

He humbled himſelf, and became *obedient* unto death. *Phil.* ii. 8.

Religion hath a good influence upon the people, to make them *obedient* to government, and peaceable one towards another. *Tillotſon, Serm.* 3.

The chief his orders gives; th' *obedient* band,
With due obſervance, wait the chief's command. *Pope.*

OBE'DIENTIAL. *adj.* [*obedientiel*, Fr. from *obedient*.] According to the rule of obedience.

Faith is ſuch as God will accept of, when it affords fiducial reliance on the promiſes, and *obediential* ſubmiſſion to the command. *Hammond.*

Faith is then perfect, when it produces in us a fiduciary aſſent to whatever the goſpel has revealed, and an *obediential* ſubmiſſion to the commands. *Wake's Prep. for Death.*

OBE'DIENTLY. *adv.* [from *obedient*] With obedience.

We ſhould behave ourſelves reverently and *obediently* towards the Divine Majeſty, and juſtly and charitably towards men. *Tillotſon.*

OBE'ISANCE. *n. ſ.* [*obeiſance*, Fr. This word is formed by corruption from *abaiſance*, an act of reverence.] A bow; a courteſy; an act of reverence made by inclination of the body or knee.

Bartholomew my page,
See dreſt in all ſuits like a lady;
Then call him Madam, do him all *obeiſance*. *Shakeſpeare.*

Bathſheba bowed and did *obeiſance* unto the king. 1 *K.* i. 16.

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